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SOME BIRDS OF BAKER COUNTY, OREGON.

BY STANLEY G. JEWETT.

THE following list of birds was made during a stay in Baker County between March 10 and August 17, 1906, and May 1 to June 2, 1907. Some interesting species were described to the author by hunters and prospectors, but they have been omitted, as no accurate data were secured. Some species, as the Franklin's Grouse and McFarlane's Screech Owl, are residents in adjoining counties.

The section treated in this list is about fifty miles northeast of Baker City in the Powder River Mountains.

The timber consists largely of yellow and black pine, red and white fir, tamarack and spruce. The open dry hillsides are covered with mountain laurel, while in the vicinity of water are to be found cottonwood and willow.

In the identification of many species the author desires to thank Mr. A. W. Anthony of Portland, Oregon; also the United States National Museum for identifying some of the more doubtful species.

1. **Mergus americanus.** AMERICAN MERGANSER.—A pair was seen flying up the creek on March 27.

2. **Actitis macularia.** SPOTTED SANDPIPER.—Seen several times during the summer.

3. **Dendragapus richardsonii.** RICHARDSON'S GROUSE.—Abundant resident; nests in April and May.

4. *Bonasa umbellus umbelloides*. GRAY RUFFED GROUSE.—Common resident, frequenting the heavy undergrowth near the creeks. A nest found on June 10, 1906, contained nine fresh eggs.

5. *Zenaidura macroura*. MOURNING DOVE.—Two seen on July 6. Doves are abundant in the sage-brush country but apparently rare in the timber.

6. *Cathartes aura septentrionalis*. TURKEY VULTURE.—Common all summer. A nest in a cavity of rock, with two small young, was found May 25, 1907.

7. *Accipiter velox*. SHARP-SHINNED HAWK.—Common; breeds.

8. *Accipiter cooperi*. COOPER'S HAWK.—Very common; breeds.

9. *Buteo borealis calurus*. WESTERN RED-TAIL.—Fairly common.

10. *Aquila chrysaëtos*. GOLDEN EAGLE.—Seen several times during the summer.

11. *Falco sparverius phalæna*. DESERT SPARROW HAWK.—Common all summer. One pair raised a brood in the same tree with a pair of Pileated Woodpeckers.

12. *Pandion haliaëtus carolinensis*. AMERICAN OSPREY.—Seen but once, on June 20, 1906.

13. *Bubo* sp. GREAT HORNED OWL.—Notes of *Bubo* were often heard during the night, but as no specimens were taken the subspecies was not determined.

14. *Ceryle alcyon*. BELTED KINGFISHER.—Common; breeds.

15. *Dryobates villosus monticola*. ROCKY MOUNTAIN HAIRY WOODPECKER.—Abundant resident in the thick fir and pine groves.

16. *Xenopicus albolarvatus*. WHITE-HEADED WOODPECKER.—Common resident, nesting in the tops of dead pines.

17. *Picoides arcticus*. ARCTIC THREE-TOED WOODPECKER.—Seen but once, May 29, 1906.

18. *Sphyrapicus varius nuchalis*. RED-NAPED SAPSUCKER.—One male taken on April 28, 1906; no more seen until August 2, 1906, when I saw a female and one young.

19. *Sphyrapicus thyroides*. WILLIAMSON'S SAPSUCKER.—Common all summer, nesting in the tall pines on the high ridges.

20. *Phlœotomus pileatus abieticola*. NORTHERN PILEATED WOODPECKER.—Common resident; several nests seen in dead pines, ranging from twenty to seventy feet up.

21. *Asyndesmus lewisi*. LEWIS'S WOODPECKER.—Common enough on the edge of the timber but rarely found far from the open plains.

22. *Phalœnoptilus nuttalli*. POOR-WILL.—Mr. A. W. Anthony often heard notes of the Poor-will at Sparta.

23. *Chordeiles virginianus henryi*. WESTERN NIGHT HAWK.—Abundant summer resident.

24. *Chætura vauxi*. VAUX'S SWIFT.—Fairly common during June and July.

25. *Stellula calliope*. CALLIOPE HUMMINGBIRD.—This beautiful little

hummer was common everywhere. Three nests found were in fir trees, ranging from four to seven feet up. One nest was found in some moss hanging over rocks.

26. *Selasphorus rufus*. RUFIOUS HUMMINGBIRD.—Fairly common during May, 1907, but absent the year before.

27. *Tyrannus tyrannus*. KINGBIRD.—The common eastern Kingbird is common all over Eastern Oregon.

28. *Tyrannus verticalis*. ARKANSAS KINGBIRD.—Equally as common as the former.

29. *Sayornis saya*. SAY'S PHOEBE.—Fairly common.

30. *Nuttallornis borealis*. OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHER.—Fairly common; arrives about April 19.

31. *Empidonax hammondi*. HAMMOND'S FLYCATCHER.—Abundant all summer; nests well up in fir or spruce.

32. *Empidonax wrighti*. WRIGHT'S FLYCATCHER.—Equally common; nests in willows on the hillsides.

33. *Myiochanes richardsoni*. WESTERN WOOD PEWEE.—Fairly common summer resident.

34. *Pica pica hudsonica*. AMERICAN MAGPIE.—Abundant resident; hundreds of their large bulky nests may be seen from the stage road between Baker City and Sparta.

35. *Cyanocitta stelleri annectens*. BLACK-HEADED JAY.—Common resident. A nest found on July 8, 1906, contained four young about a week old; nest eight feet up in a small fir on a hillside.

36. *Perisoreus canadensis capitalis*. ROCKY MOUNTAIN JAY.—Seen but once, May 29, 1906, two individuals.

37. *Nucifraga columbiana*. CLARK'S CROW.—Common resident. Saw female feeding four large young on May 14, 1906.

38. *Molothrus ater*. COWBIRD.—One, June 10, 1906.

39. *Sturnella neglecta*. WESTERN MEADOWLARK.—Common in all the open country of Baker County.

40. *Icterus bullocki*. BULLOCK'S ORIOLE.—Common among the cottonwoods.

41. *Euphagus cyanocephalus*. BREWER'S BLACKBIRD.—Abundant in the grain fields during August.

42. *Carpodacus cassinii*. CASSIN'S PURPLE FINCH.—Abundant summer resident; first seen April 1, 1906. Several pairs had nests close to our camp.

43. *Loxia curvirostra minor*. AMERICAN CROSSBILL.—Common resident; breeds.

44. *Leucosticte tephrocotis*. GRAY-CROWNED LEUCOSTICTE.—Two specimens taken from a flock containing about one hundred birds of both *L. tephrocotis* and *L. t. littoralis* on March 14, 1906.

45. *Leucosticte tephrocotis littoralis*. HEPBURN'S LEUCOSTICTE.—Abundant in large flocks when I arrived at Sparta, March 13, 1906, feeding around haystacks and corrals.

46. *Spinus pinus*. PINE SISKIN.— Abundant summer resident. Siskins and Cassin's Purple Finches were abundant around the camp yard all summer.

47. *Spizella passerina arizonæ*. WESTERN CHIPPING SPARROW.— Abundant summer resident. First seen April 29, 1906.

48. *Junco hyemalis shufeldti*. SHUFELDT'S JUNCO.— Common resident.

49. *Melospiza melodia merrilli*. MERRILL'S SONG SPARROW.— Seen but once in the mountains on April 10; common enough in the open country to the south.

50. *Melospiza lincolni*. LINCOLN'S SPARROW.— A single specimen taken May 31, 1907.

51. *Passerella iliaca schistacea*. SLATE-COLORED SPARROW.— First seen April 28, 1906. On June 22, 1906, while clearing away some brush I found a nest containing one fresh egg and the dead female. The ovary of the dead bird contained a perfect egg.

52. *Pipilo maculatus montanus*. MOUNTAIN TOWHEE.— Fairly common. First seen March 26, 1906.

53. *Oreospiza chlorura*. GREEN-TAILED TOWHEE.— Common. First seen April 10, 1906.

54. *Zamelodia melanocephala*. BLACK-HEADED GROSBEEK.— Seen only once or twice.

55. *Piranga ludoviciana*. WESTERN TANAGER.— Abundant summer resident. Arrives May 15.

56. *Hirundo erythrogastra*. BARN SWALLOW.— Common at Sparta. Breeds.

57. *Tacycineta thalassina lepida*. VIOLET-GREEN SWALLOW.— Seen but once,—a small flock on June 2.

58. *Bombycilla garrula*. BOHEMIAN WAXWING.— Two specimens secured on March 13, 1906; said to be a fairly common winter visitor.

59. *Vireosylva gilva swainsoni*. WESTERN WARBLING VIREO.— Common summer resident.

60. *Lanivireo solitarius cassini*. CASSIN'S VIREO.— First seen May 6, 1906; common by the 18th, breeds.

61. *Helminthophila rubricapilla gutturalis*. CALAVERAS WARBLER.— Seen but once; took a male July 9, 1906.

62. *Dendroica æstiva*. YELLOW WARBLER.— Common at Sparta, where it breeds.

63. *Dendroica auduboni*. AUDUBON'S WARBLER.— Common; arrives about April 1.

64. *Geothlypis tolmiei*. MACGILLIVRAY'S WARBLER.— Common. First seen May 5. Fresh eggs found June 12, June 25, and July 18, 1906.

65. *Geothlypis trichas occidentalis*. WESTERN YELLOW-THROAT.— Common along the Powder River flats in June, 1906.

66. *Oroscoptes montanus*. SAGE THRASHER.— Common among the sagebrush.

67. *Salpinctes obsoletus*. ROCK WREN.— Common along the bluffs near Powder River, but only seen once in the mountains.

69. *Troglodytes aëdon parkmani*. PARKMAN'S WREN.— Fairly common all summer.

70. *Nannus hiemalis pacificus*. WESTERN WINTER WREN.— Common resident; nested along the creek in moss and upturned roots and stumps. One nest on May 20 had four eggs which the bird promptly deserted after I disturbed her.

71. *Certhia familiaris montana*. ROCKY MOUNTAIN CREEPER.— Fairly common in March and April, but disappeared with the snow.

72. *Sitta carolinensis nelsoni*. ROCKY MOUNTAIN NUTHATCH.— Not common, but a permanent resident.

73. *Sitta canadensis*. RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH.— Common resident.

74. *Sitta pygmæa*. PYGMY NUTHATCH.— Abundant on the high ridges, nesting in dead pine tops.

75. *Penthestes rufescens*. CHESTNUT-BACKED CHICKADEE.— Fairly common; young were secured in July, 1906. I believe this record extends the range of this species somewhat.

76. *Penthestes atricapillus septentrionalis*. LONG-TAILED CHICKADEE.— A single example secured on May 30, 1907.

77. *Penthestes gambeli*. MOUNTAIN CHICKADEE.— Abundant resident; begins nesting early in May.

78. *Regulus calendula*. RUBY-CROWNED KINGLET.— Common summer resident in the deep fir thickets where their sweet song could be heard daily during May and June.

79. *Hylocichla ustulata swainsoni*. OLIVE-BACKED THRUSH.— Specimens sent to the United States National Museum were identified as this species. I know of no other records of *H. u. swainsoni* being taken in Oregon. Common; arrives about May 13; nests in June and July.

80. *Planesticus migratorius propinquus*. WESTERN ROBIN.— Common summer resident.

81. *Ixoreus naevius*. VARIED THRUSH.— Not common; a nest found on May 14, 1907, contained four young. Nest eight feet up in a small fir near a creek.

82. *Sialia mexicana occidentalis*. WESTERN BLUEBIRD.— Common; breeds.

83. *Sialia currucoides*. MOUNTAIN BLUEBIRD.— First seen during a snow storm on March 12, 1906. Breeds at Sparta in boxes built for wrens and swallows